

REPORTER

Wednesday, October 9, 1844.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

For President in 1844,
JAMES K. POLK,
OF TENNESSEE.

For Vice President,
GEORGE M. DALLAS,
OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Electors for President and Vice President.

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| 1. George F. Lehman. | 13. George Schobel. |
| 2. Christian Kneass. | 14. Nath'l B. Eldred. |
| 3. William H. Smith. | 15. M. N. Irvine. |
| 4. John Hill, (Phila.) | 16. James Woodburn. |
| 5. Samuel E. Leech. | 17. Hugh Montgomery. |
| 6. Samuel Camp. | 18. Isaac Ankney. |
| 7. Jesse Sharpe. | 19. John Matthews. |
| 8. N. W. Sample. | 20. William Patterson. |
| 9. Wm. Heidenrich. | 21. Andrew Burke. |
| 10. Conrad Shimer. | 22. John M'Gill. |
| 11. Stephen Baldy. | 23. Christian Meyers. |
| 12. Jonah Brewster. | 24. Robert Orr. |

The Presidential Contest.

Before this paper shall have reached our readers, the gubernatorial contest will have been decided by the freemen of Pennsylvania. That it will result in the election of Francis R. Shunk, we cannot doubt. We trust that the unbought suffrages of the democracy of our good old Keystone, will administer a withering rebuke to the enemies of that worthy man, and pave the way for a more glorious victory of democracy ever federalism on the 1st day of November.

Soon will the freemen of our beloved land be called on to decide who shall be the favored man to receive the highest office in their gift. Our institutions of government present a striking illustration of the superior power of Democracy over monarchy, to rouse the feelings, and excite the interest of the people in their preservation. The time for exercising one of the most important duties of a free citizen, is now so rapidly approaching, that but few more opportunities will be granted us of presenting our views of the momentous questions at issue between the two great parties.

The Presidential contest has thus far been waged with the utmost bitterness and malignity on the part of the adherents of Henry Clay. They have resorted to every device, and industriously promulgated every vile and malicious slander that they thought could possibly have any effect upon the character of the Democratic candidates.

Notwithstanding the falsity of the charges they have made against our candidates have been abundantly refuted, and some of them have even been retracted by the Federal press, still in remote and thinly settled parts of our country, there are to be found men who persist in asserting the same charges, stale and refuted though they have been, to be true.

But not alone with misrepresenting the character and opinions of our candidates, have they been satisfied, but they have taken the most unwarrantable and unscrupulous method of keeping out of view the real questions at issue.

Those strenuous exertions which have been so unremittingly made, to have the subject of a tariff, for the first time, considered a party question, owe their origin to the ardent desire of the Federal party to keep out of view their favorite project, a National Bank. But we repeat to the Democracy,—keep constantly in mind the fact, that Henry Clay is in favor of a National Bank.

The Democracy should ever bear in mind, that Henry Clay would regard his election as a decision of the people in favor of a United States Bank, and that he has pledged himself repeatedly never to cease his exertions, until he shall have procured the incorporation of such an institution.

The granting of special privileges by the creation of corporations with immunities not enjoyed by private individuals is one of the most odious ways of creating a nobility. What though the wealthy men at the head of these corporations, have not those high sounding titles, and are not decorated with those heraldic gew-gaws of which the nobility of Europe so so proud; if they, by special legislation, are enabled to reap the wealth and enjoy the privileges conferred upon the titled in monarchies!

It is amusing to witness the shifts to which the Federals are driven, for the

purpose of concealing the real questions at issue. In 1840, the cry was, Give us a change! any thing for a change! The administration of Van Buren is ruining the country! &c., &c. They obtained the change which they desired, and though during the campaign, they had stoutly denied that they were in favor of a Bank, their first efforts were directed towards procuring the charter of such an institution.

For refusing to sign their Bank bill, they branded John Tyler as a traitor to their party.

And can it be supposed, that the real end they now wish to attain, is not a National Bank? True it is, that Henry Clay has long been the champion of the money power,—true it is, that some of their presses and orators have declared that the real issue is a Bank; yet, despite all these facts, systematic efforts have been made, and are still being made, to withdraw the attention of the people to other and less important questions. But the Democracy, we confidently believe, will not suffer themselves to be deceived. They have patiently investigated the great leading questions involved in the present struggle of the two great parties for the mastery. In tones louder and more significant than thunder, in which they will reject the Federal doctrines, Henry Clay will recognize the lofty and energetic determination of the Democracy to preserve our glorious institutions free from the corrupt and debasing influences of a vast overshadowing monopoly, which it has been the aim of a large portion of his life to establish.

GENERAL JACKSON has now attained the age of about seventy-seven years.—A Missouri paper, the editor of which has recently visited him says: "We met the General in the hall, seated upon the sofa, from which he did not attempt to rise. Age and debility have set their stamp upon him. His voice is yet clear and vigorous, except when disturbed by a severe cough, with which he is afflicted. His eyesight and hearing have failed considerably, and his whole person evinces the trembling feebleness of age and physical infirmity. His memory is yet clear and generally tolerably distinct, and his mind evinces but little of the decay, which might be expected from the prostration of his physical faculties.—His own remark, that his "taper was nearly burned-out," was most painfully and forcibly manifest. Notwithstanding his infirmity, he manifested great attention to his domestic affairs, spoke of his farm; the crops; the yield; the prospects of the markets, &c., showing that he is not unmindful of what is transpiring around him. His conversation concerning his own affairs showed him to be a man of great goodness of heart, a kind and indulgent master, a warm and steadfast friend. His family consists of Andrew Jackson, jr., an adopted son, and his adopted son, and his interesting lady, who does the honors of the mansion, and fills the high station which she occupies with a tenderness, affection and fidelity to the General, which does honor to her heart and credit to her sex.

LOUISIANA SPECIAL ELECTION.—The following is the result of the Election in the Senatorial district comprising the parishes named:—

	September.	July.
Declinet. Mouton.	149	240
St. Mary	261	132
St. Martin	360	277
Vermillion	121	119
Lafayette	191	233
	383	813
	867	633

Whig maj. 76 In July 180
76

Democratic gain since July 105

The 4th congressional district, comprising a number of other parishes in addition to the above, gave a Democratic majority in July of 228. It will be perceived by the above statement, that although the Whigs have elected their senator, it is by a reduced majority from that they gave in these parishes in July, although the vote has been increased nearly 250 in number. The Democratic gain since July is 104; and that district will give a Democratic majority of from 600 to 1,000 in November.

NEW PAPER.—We have received the third number of the "Olive Branch," a paper recently established at Muncy, Lycoming County Pa., by J. M. Newson. It goes strong for Polk and Dallas.

The Roorback Fraud.

The manner in which this fraud has been treated by the whig press discovers a degree of moral recklessness that we did not suppose to exist. A calumny as foul and atrocious as was ever uttered, is spoken of as though it were a trivial offence, and even after the completest exposure of its falsehood, many express themselves in such a way as to leave a doubt in the minds of their readers whether the infamous libel is not true after all. On this subject, the *Morning News* has some good remarks:

"The detection and exposure of the forgery was so complete and overwhelming, that no room was left for a moment's doubt or question. Yet several of the whig papers, we have observed, speak of it simply as though it was merely a disputed point—a charge and a denial—so as still to leave room for that large class of persons who only read their own whig paper, and with whom an ounce of whig insinuation will always outweigh a pound of Democratic proof, to retain at least an imperfect sort of idea that 'no doubt there is something in it.'"

The Albany evening Journal would denounce it "if it should prove to be an error;" and though it gave a column and a half, a couple of days afterwards, talking round and round about the matter, it neither did denounce it, nor indeed give any tangible and positive admission of its falsehood. The Philadelphia U. S. Gazette stated, "that the article, instead of being an extract from Roorback, was taken from Featherstonhaugh, excepting the separate sentence relative to the branding." Was this any statement of the fraud, any proper exposure of it, any contradiction of it? How many loose readers would not carry away the impression from this that there was a "Roorback," and that though there had been some mistake and confusion in the quotations, yet the story was, or might yet be true, after all? The Utica Gazette, too, informs its readers that "there appears to be reason for questioning the authenticity of an extract which is going the rounds of the Whig papers, purporting to be from 'Roorback's Tour through the Western and Southern States in 1836,' representing the condition and fate of a portion of James K. Polk's slaves." "Reason for questioning," with a vengeance! Methinks there is mighty "reason for questioning," forsooth! And we have yet to find the first Whig paper which has yet found even any "reason for questioning," whether Mr. Polk's patriotic and brave old revolutionary grandfather was a Tory or not. We opine, however, that by the fifth of November next, they will find considerable "reason for questioning" whether such a system of political warfare is worth in utility as much as it costs in wear and tear of conscience and character.

But our cotemporary has not yet stated the worst part of the case. The *Brooklyn Advertiser* which published the extract, according to the *Brooklyn Eagle* on the 19th inst., has not yet apprised its readers that it was a forgery. Again: The *Newark Daily Advertiser*, from which we expected better, gives this account of the matter: "Enquirer," who must have overlooked our paragraph on the subject yesterday, is informed that the fraudulent extract concerning Mr. Polk's slaves being branded with his name, did not originate with the Whigs. It first appeared in an *Abolition paper* in Western New York, to which it was probably communicated by some loco loco for the very purpose of entrapping the Whig press. The Albany Evening Journal, which first copied the infamous fraud as it found it, has since promptly exposed the trick, proved its source, and has very properly determined to give each one of the calumniators who have basely charged it with the fraud a chance of proving, in a Court of Justice, the truth of the allegation, or of suffering the penalties of deliberate slander."

This is false in several respects; first, the calumny did originate with the whigs, for the *Ithaca Chronicle*, in which it first appeared, is not an abolition, but a whig paper; second, the Evening Journal did not copy the article as it found it, for it originally was published as an anonymous communication in an obscure country paper, while the Evening Journal gave it, on its own authority, accompanied by a half a column of remarks, in which it was assumed throughout to be genuine; third, the Evening Journal did not expose the trick, and hardly confessed it, a week after it appeared, when the Albany Argus made the exposure. There are three paragraphs in the extract of the Daily Advertiser, and just as many mistakes.

The Monroe Democrat, it seems, corrects the forgery in its daily paper, but circulates it at the same time in its country edition.

But the Hartford *Courant* beats all its whig neighbors. Having published the fraud; and being threatened by the Hartford Times with an exposure, it came out the next morning with the following, which we copy as it was printed:

"Infamous Loco Foco Fraud and Forgery."

Wicked Attempt to injure the Whig cause by committing a villainous Forgery, and charging the same on the Whigs!!

We are prepared for the most vile and outrageous attempts to injure the Whigs, by all the arts of villainy and forgery, we confess that we were not prepared for the enormity of the conspiracy and imposition we are now about to expose. We published a few days since a supposed extract from a work said to be entitled Roorback's Tour in the Southern and Western States. We supposed the extract genuine, and published it in good faith.—We now find that it is taken from Featherstonhaugh's Tour, and that the part relating to James K. Polk is forged and interpolated! There is not a shadow of doubt that this forgery was conceived and executed by the Loco Foco leaders for the sake of leading the Whig press into a snare, and they will now be ready to expose their own iniquity, and charge it upon the Whigs! A vile trick was never attempted.—We now, in advance of the Loco Foco press, expose and denounce it and call upon the Whig papers throughout the Union to hold up to the scorn of the world, this unmanly resort to the vilest means to injure the great cause in support of which the Nation is aroused.—Whigs of Connecticut! You see to what resort Locofoebism is driven. To plan and execute forgeries and then charge them upon the Whigs is a part of their system of tactics. We rejoice that we have at so early a moment detected and exposed this last scheme of villainy. Let our friends everywhere understand it, and now and forever be on their guard against Loco Foco forgeries of every description."

There is a sublimity of impudence and wickedness here that transcends all occasion for commentary.

Letter from Gen. Jackson.

Gen Jackson thus bears testimony to the character, not only of James K. Polk, but of his father and grandfather:

HERMITAGE, July 12, 1844.

SIR: I have just received your letter of the 20th ult., informing me that—recently declared "that he travelled through Tennessee at the time Governor Polk was for the first time a candidate for governor, and that his opponents (the whigs) then brought the charge of his Grandfather's being a Tory against him, and that the Democrats of Tennessee met the charge by throwing it upon the North Carolina branch of the Polk family—that is, Colonel Thomas Polk," and you desire me to state, for your information, and that of the people, what I know of the fact.

In reply, I state, with pleasure, that I know all the old stock of Polks—Colonel Thomas Polk father of Colonel William Polk, and Ezekiel Polk grandfather of Colonel James K. Polk.—They were all good '76 whigs. Old Colonel Thomas Polk was the first mover of independence in Mecklenburg county. All the Polks then grown were good '76 whigs; and Colonel William Polk, son of Thomas, was twice wounded in war of the revolution, and I think he had a brother killed in the battle. I never knew one branch of the family to be charged with Toryism before. If such a rumor was circulated during the canvass referred to, I never heard of it.

I am gratified thus to be able to give my testimony to the revolutionary services and patriotism of the Polk family, with many of whose members I have been intimate the greater part of my life.

It seems that in these times no character is safe against the slanderer, for there never was less excuse for it than in the case of Colonel Polk. I have known him since he was a boy. A citizen more exemplary in moral deportment, more punctual and exact in business, more energetic and manly in the expression of his opinion, and more patriotic does not live.

I am, very respectfully,
your obedient servant,
ANDREW JACKSON.

THE POTATO DISEASE.—A cotemporary says, that "a farmer who has examined into this disease of a valuable vegetable, finds that the vines of those potatoes which are rotten are hollow for 4 or 5 inches above the surface of the ground and bear the appearance of having been eaten out by an insect.—In many cases he discovered a small green colored maggot in the cavity. That's the cause.

EXTRAORDINARY FALL SNOW.—We were favored on Sunday, the 29th ult., by a fall of snow which gave the surrounding aspect of winter. We are informed, that upon the Coal Bed mountain, the snow lay upon the ground, two feet and four inches, in depth. An occurrence we presume to say has never happened before, in the memory of the oldest inhabitant.

MARYLAND ELECTION.—Full returns from Maryland induce us to believe that the whig candidate for Governor, has been successful by a diminished majority.

Look at this Picture.

Again, and again have we warned the people against all legislation to create monopolies. We have asserted that a high protective Tariff, had this effect; and that if the policy of the whigs upon this subject should be carried out, it would ultimately reduce the honest labor of this country, to a condition not better than that of the starving millions of Europe. Already is the proof thickening around us. The eastern manufactures it seems combine to oppress their operatives, and to compel them to submit to such terms as they propose, or starve.

The following petition exposes the infamous and oppressive system adopted by the manufacturers "down east," to crush the hopes of the laborer. It shows the way, a high tariff protects American industry." What do the owners of these manufacturers care, so long as they can declare large dividends, to do this, they would combine to starve the deserving laborer.

The subjoined petition throws a flood of light upon this subject. We ask for it a careful perusal.

To the Massachusetts Legislature:

"We, the undersigned, females, dependent upon the labor of our hands for subsistence, having left the employment of the Middlesex Manufacturing Company on account of a violation on their part of the agreement existing between the undersigned and said company, are now suffering persecution from said company, and are hunted from the place that we may find employment by which to earn a living. Not being able to contend against our rich persecutors, by bringing a suit at law for satisfaction, we are compelled to seek redress or protection from the powers which created said company. The "regulation paper" which accompanies this memorial reads as follows:

"All persons entering into the employment of the company are considered as engaged for twelve months; and those who leave sooner will not receive a regular discharge."

"We did not imply, by agreeing to this, that our wages would be subject to any reduction which the company might see fit to make, and when they gave us official notice that they were going to cut our wages down about 25 per cent., we considered it a violation of the agreement which existed between us, and therefore did not feel bound by an agreement, which they had a right to break; for, if they could reduce our wages 25 per cent., why not 50, and still hold us to work twelve months.

"We, therefore, quit working for said company, and the consequence to us is as follows:—Some of us went to work for other companies; but these companies soon received our names, and we were immediately turned off. Some of us applied for work where hands were wanted, but were informed that they could employ none of the "turn outs from Middlesex;" and many who labored with us have been obliged to leave Lowell, and seek their bread, we know not where, on account of the persecution carried on against them by the Middlesex Company. Our names are upon all the corporations in Lowell, that we find no employment." We therefore pray that you will, if consistent with your constitutional powers, stay the hands of our persecutors; and if not, that some law may be enacted which will prevent our brothers, sisters, and friends, suffering as we suffer, if ever they should resist injustices from manufacturing companies.

- RUTH HANCOCK.
- MARIA FRENCH.
- MARY J. STOWELL.
- MARY W. HONEY.
- CARO. I. SWEETSER.
- LUCINDA KEELER.
- DEBORAH SMITH.
- EUNICE G. LISLEY.
- BETSEY TENNEY.
- REBECCA B. FLYING.
- MARY F. TENNEY.
- SARAH FLYING.
- LYDIA G. BATES.
- AMY LITTLEFIELD.
- JULIA A. TAYLOR.
- JANE E. MORTON.
- MARY A. MORGAN.

Henry Clay's Letter.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14, 1841.

GENTLEMEN.—In the midst of preparations for my departure for my home, I have received, by the hands of the gentlemen who have done me the honor to wait upon me, your obliging communication bearing date this day, transmitting a resolution adopted at a public meeting held in Baltimore yesterday, by which it is proposed to distinguish my expected visit to that city by signal public demonstrations. I pray you, gentlemen, and those who constituted that meeting, to accept my grateful and respectful acknowledgements for this new and gratifying proof of attachment and confidence, I should embrace with pleasure, the opportunity of visiting your city at this time; but as I am, by the labors of the session of Congress just closed, and sharing, with the companions of my journey, an eagerness to terminate it, without delay, I

regret that I must postpone a visit to your city to some future day.

If, gentlemen, all has not been accomplished at the late session of Congress that the public interests demanded, more, much more has been effected, than I anticipated at its commencement. If we have been greatly disappointed in the failure of repeated attempts to establish a sound currency, regulate exchanges, and separate the purse from the sword; what American citizen, what whig will, on that account surrender himself to the arguments of an ignoble despair? Will not say that we will persevere, with redoubled courage, until every remaining object of the glorious revolution of November last shall be completely consummated? Shall we be discouraged because one man presumes to set his individual will against the will of the nation! On the contrary, let us superadd to the previous duties which we lie under to our country that of withdrawing from the Constitution this ignominious vestige of Royal prerogative. Let us by a suitable amendment to that instrument, declare that the Veto—the parent and fruitful source of all our public ills—shall itself be overruled by majorities in the two Houses of Congress. They would persuade as that it is harmless, because its office is preventive or conservative! As if nations might not be as much injured by the rest of the enactment of good laws as by the promulgation of bad ones!

I am, gentlemen, greatly indebted notwithstanding the astounding developments recently made, in the whig cause is not stronger than it ever was. Resting, as it does, upon truth, sound policy, and enlightened patriotism, its votaries must be false and faithless, if it does not gloriously triumph, notwithstanding any temporary disappointment.

Accept, gentlemen, assurance of my high regard and esteem of
Your friend and obedient servant,
HENRY CLAY.

Messrs. Robert, Gilmer, &c.

Immediately following this letter, an address was put forth by the whig members of Congress, under the direction of Mr. Clay, denouncing the President and laying down the following as the programme of their future operations:

At the head of the duties which remain for the Whigs to perform toward their country, stands conspicuously and pre-eminently above all others—
First. A reduction of the Executive power, by a further limitation of the Veto, so as to secure obedience to the public will, as that shall be expressed by the immediate representatives of the people and states, with no other control than that which is in indispensable to avert hasty or unconstitutional legislation.

"British Gold."

It evinces the desperation of the Whigs—it evinces their alarm at the signs of the times—to see them proclaiming that the capitalists of Great Britain are sending money into the country to aid the Democrats. What an idea! Great Britain agreeing in feeling, with the Democrats—with those who have exposed her arrogant pretensions in Maine—those who have raised the war cry in Oregon—those who wish to defeat her in her eager desire to possess Texas—with those, in a word, who opposed her, when she opposed a Monster Bank, and who believe and declare their unshakable and unsleeping hostility to her and to her tyranny and wrong. It remained for Whiggery to prove itself a daring liar in repeating the self-denying falsehood that Great Britain is aiding the Democratic party!

No, fellow-citizens! It is the poor trick of "stop thief" after all! Whiggery knows its relationships in England are so close and intimate, that in order to conceal the intimacy, it has perpetuated this foul heaven-offending lie that the whigs are opposed by the British.

Why should not HENRY CLAY be aided by Great Britain? There is every reason to expect such assistance. For

He is in favor of A GREAT BANK to control and corrupt everything and everybody.

He is in favor of ASSUMING THE STATE DEBTS, and thus aiding the foreign holders of American bonds—the Barings, the Rothschilds, and the lords of the English money market.

He was in favor of the English side of the Maine Boundary Question, and now is of the English side of the Oregon and Texas question!

And, if elected, he will secure Oregon to England—Texas to England—and to crown all, prove his administration by aiding to Assume our State Debts—an act that will endear his name to every English speculator living!

This man—the party that advocates this man's cause—to try and make capital out of the poor lie that they are opposed by British Gold! Why, verily believe, there is not a British Millionaire who, at this moment, has not subscribed in aid of Henry Clay's election.—*Lancaster Intelligencer.*

DELAWARE ELECTION.—The primary election in the State of Delaware, resulted in the success of the democratic party by a majority of 51.